

Message Text

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17

ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 ACDA-10 AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01

CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02

OES-06 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

SAL-01 FEA-01 /150 W

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R 140437Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4548

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

US MISSION UN NEW YORK 744

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 5251

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, MY, SN, ID

SUBJECT: MALAYSIAN FONMIN ON STRAITS TRAFFIC SCHEME AND ASEAN PEACE
ZONE

1. NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY HAS REPORTED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER RITHAUDDEEN TOLD REPORTERS SEPT 10 THAT MALAYSIA, INDONESIA AND SINGAPORE WERE "FINALIZING A COMMON STAND" TO ENSURE NAVIGATIONAL SAFETY AND REDUCE POLLUTION IN THE MALACCA STRAIT. MARTIME NATIONS WOULD BE "INFORMED" OF THE STAND AND MEASURES AGREED ON INCLUDING A TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEME WHICH INVOLVED PILOTAGE GUIDANCE THROUGH AGREED LANES. "IT IS OUR PREROGATIVE TO TAKE MEASURES TO ENSURE NAVIGATIONAL SAFETY AND WE EXPECT THAT MARITIME NATIONS TO RESPECT OUR POSITION AS LITTORAL COUNTRIES," HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING.

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2. IN SAME INTERVIEW, RITHAUDDEEN ALSO EXPRESSED MALAYSIA'S

"DETERMINATION" TO PURSUE THE "NEUTRALITY CONCEPT" PARTICULARLY TO NON-ASEAN COUNTRIES IN THE REGION. HE SAID SENIOR ASEAN OFFICIALS WOULD SOON MEET IN JAKARTA TO DISCUSS "FURTHER STRATEGIES" FOR MAKING SOUTHEAST ASIA INTO A ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITY.

3. COMMENT: WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS THAT WOULD LEAD TO FINALIZATION OF A TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEME, PARTICULARLY ANY AGREEMENT ON UNDERKEEL CLEARANCE. UNDERHILL

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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